

APRIL 8 2026

Advances in Understanding Neurodevelopmental Conditions in Infancy and Early Childhood

Yale Social and Affective Neuroscience of Autism Conference

The Anlyan Center Auditorium, 300 Cedar St., New Haven, CT 06519

There will be a 5 minute Q & A after each speaker!

9:00
TO
11:15

PART I

RISK FACTORS AND SUSCEPTIBILITY MARKERS IN PSYCHOPATHOLOGY

9:00-9:20: Katarzyna Chawarska, PhD

Susceptibility markers in autism/neurodevelopmental conditions

9:25-9:45: Zeyan Liew, PhD, MPH

Do prenatal risks for autism differ between families with and without ASD?

9:50-10:10: Helena Rutherford, PhD

Leveraging insights into the maternal brain to inform child development

10:15-10:35: Kieran O'Donnell, PhD

Developmental timing of exposure to early life stress and relevance for mental health into adulthood

10:40-11:00 Angela Montgomery, MD, MEd

From early brain vulnerability to neuropsychological outcomes after preterm birth

11:05 TO 11:20

COFFEE BREAK

11:20
TO
12:10

PART II

PROFOUND AUTISM

11:20-11:40: Adam Naples, PhD

Developing biomarker approaches for profound autism

11:45-12:05: Mariana Torres-Viso, PsyD, BCBA-D

Understanding profound autism: Needs, Realities, and Responsive Practice

12:10 TO 1:10 | **LUNCH BREAK** *on your own*

**1:15
TO
3:10**

PART III

**TRANSDIAGNOSTIC APPROACH TO
PSYCHOPATHOLOGY**

1:15-1:25: Katarzyna Chawarska, PhD

Introduction to the transdiagnostic approach

1:30-1:50: Thomas Fernandez, MD

Motor stereotypies in children: Clinical features, assessment, and genetics

1:55-2:15: Leah Wang, PhD

Motor behavior across the neurodevelopmental spectrum: Movement as a marker and driver of development

2:20-2:40: Matthew Goodwin, PhD

Automating detection and characterization of motor stereotypies in autism

2:45-3:05 Kelly Powell, PhD

Making sense of early symptoms: A transdiagnostic lens on emerging neurodevelopmental disorders

3:10 TO 3:30 | **GENERAL Q&A, CLOSING REMARKS**

THANK YOU FOR ATTENDING!

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON YALE'S SANA LAB, SEE THE LINK BELOW:

<https://medicine.yale.edu/lab/chawarska/autismcenter/>